UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

FEBRUARY 1919

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The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

Publication Department

AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

50 CENTS PER YEAR **7 CENTS PER COPY**

THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

ALL OF THESE SOCIETIES have their headquarters in the building of the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. The names of the principal officers of each society will be found on the first pages of the sections devoted to their respective organizations. The work and purpose of these societies may be stated in brief as follows:

THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

THE ASSOCIATION was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity." In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

THE ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

THE UNION was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

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UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and Unitarian Temperance Society

Vol. 22 FEBRUARY, 1919 No. 5

American Unitarian Association

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston

SAMUEL A. ELIOT, D.D., *President* HENRY M. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer*
LOUIS C. CORNISH, *Secretary* W. FORBES ROBERTSON, *Assistant Secretary*

Ministerial Personals

Dr. George B. Foster died at Chicago on December 22. He had a distinguished career as minister, scholar, and professor in the Baptist communion and had only recently accepted the pastorate of the Unitarian church in Madison, Wis.

Rev. D. R. Child has accepted a call to Hudson, Mass., and Rev. H. G. Ives to Amherst, Mass.

Rev. B. F. Allen was installed at Hackensack, N. J., on January 9. He also has charge of the church in Paterson, N. J.

Rev. G. F. Patterson has resigned at Peterboro, N. H., to accept a call to Concord, N. H.

Rev. W. S. Nichols of North Andover, on leave of absence from his parish, has taken charge of the Federation House at Ayer, Mass.

Rev. W. M. Taylor has accepted a call to Chattanooga, Tenn.

Rev. E. P. Daniels was installed in the North Church at Hingham on January 5.

Rev. C. P. Wellman has resigned at the South Church, Worcester, and will continue his work in the War Camp Community Service.

Owing to long-continued ill health, Rev. S. R. Maxwell has resigned at the Second Church in Boston.

Rev. D. H. Ferrell was installed at Montreal on January 17.

Rev. S. B. Nobbs has resigned as Field Secretary of the American Unitarian Association for New England, to accept a call to Brockton, Mass. Correspondence formerly addressed to Mr. Nobbs should now be addressed to the Secretary of the Association, Rev. L. C. Cornish.

Finances

The new appeals for support of the national work have gone to all the churches, and ministers and committees are urgently requested to respond promptly and generously. The records of the contributions of the past month show the usual variations. The church in Jamaica Plain makes a good gain but the neighboring church in Roxbury gives less than last year. The Second Church in Salem increases its contribution, but the society in Wellesley Hills decreases in about an equal amount. It is always exceedingly difficult to account for these variations. All four of these churches are led by virile ministers and contain the usual number of public-spirited and generous people. The probable explanation is in the use or the failure to use adequate and thorough methods of gathering the contribution. Let the

record of the Church of the Unity in Springfield indicate what follows the use of a good method. In that Society the parish committee and the minister unite in sending a circular to every member of the Society, enclosing the appeal of the Association and other printed information. A numbered return envelope is sent to every person and each former subscriber is notified of the amount given in the previous year. If any member of the church fails to return his envelope he receives a follow-up appeal so that every member is given an opportunity to contribute. The canvass, however, is undertaken by mail and not, as in the case of the Every-Member-Canvass for the local church budget, by personal visit. The use of this perfectly simple and reliable method resulted this year in lifting the contribution of the church in Springfield from $730 to $1,000. The same proportions of gain can be practically guaranteed in any church which adopts this sensible way of doing one of the most important pieces of business of the church year.

Ayer

The restored and renovated meeting-house at Ayer, Mass., was rededicated on Sunday, January 5th. The treasurer of the Association presented the keys to the chairman of the parish committee; the sermon was preached by the president of the Association; Chaplain Day and Mr. Crandall, minister of the society, took part in the service. The church was crowded, and the congregation included Maj. Gen. McCain, commanding at Camp Devens, with his staff and a considerable number of officers and soldiers.

The building has practically been reconstructed. It has a beautiful Georgian interior, with chancel and pulpit and sounding board not unlike that in King's Chapel. The vestry below is also a handsome room in the same style, and all the conveniences for modern church life and work have been added. The church is now by far the handsomest and largest of any of the churches in the town. It is hoped that it will be more and more a centre of influence alike for the community and the Camp.

Journeys

Rev. Frederic H. Kent, Rev. John H. Lathrop, and Rev. Palfrey Perkins have been appointed by the Association as lecturers on the Billings Foundation. Mr. Kent has recently returned from a year's absence overseas. He has been in Y. M. C. A. work in both England and France. He is ready to make appointments for speaking and preaching in our churches, and in clubs and alliances, anywhere between Boston and Chicago. His appointments and itinerary can be arranged to cover the three months, January, February and March. In order to avoid complications he conducts his own correspondence in regard to appointments, and he can be addressed at 32 Bedford Terrace, Northampton, Mass.

Mr. Lathrop will spend the month of February in California, and has preaching appointments for five Sundays. On the week days he will visit other points and will be able to consult with our fellow-workers in practically all of the churches in Central and Southern California. Mr. Perkins will proceed later to keep appointments in the Central West.

Laymen's League

The month just ended has witnessed an innovation among Unitarians, namely the Convention of Unitarian Laymen, which was successfully held in Springfield, Mass., on January 10, 11 and 12. The suggestion of bringing together a hundred representative laymen from our churches for counsel as to the need of a new movement and advice as to ways and means for translating thought into action met with a most gratifying response in the presence during the sessions of one hundred and forty delegates, representing sixty-four churches distributed over ten States and the Dominion of Canada. No stronger, more earnest or eminent body of Unitarian men ever assembled, and the personnel of the gathering was in itself a guarantee of the ultimate results.

The meeting of Friday evening opened with addresses by Dr. Eliot and Dr. Sullivan, outlining the purpose of the meetings and focusing attention upon the need of organized effort on the part of our body. Saturday was devoted to consideration of questions relating to the mobolizing of our man power, and the ways of increasing the usefulness of our churches, with addresses of an informal character from many earnest laymen.

In the afternoon, committees were appointed which reported in the evening on Platform, Organization, and Finance. These reports were adopted after discussion, and the business was terminated, a strong Executive Committee of five men being chosen in whose hands the future plans are placed. This Committee, consisting of Messrs. Henry D. Sharpe, Providence, R. I., Isaac Sprague, Wellesley Hills, Mass., Charles H. Strong, New York City, Robert Winsor, Weston, Mass., and Milton T. Garvin, Lancaster, Pa., is empowered to consider all suggestions which may be offered and to develop a plan for permanent organization, to be submitted to a later meeting to be called at their discretion. An advisory committee of ten men, distributed over the country, was also chosen, thus widening the representation and re-enforcing the smaller working committee.

To any who went to Springfield impatient for action and seriously expecting that a fully developed plan might be adopted on the spot, the sessions may have seemed incomplete, but the strong conviction prevailed that so important a matter should not be too hastily conceived, and the enterprise is now in the hands of men determined to make it a success to the fullest extent.

The sermon written for the occasion by Rev. Francis G. Peabody and delivered on Sunday was the final inspiration for all who were able to remain. About sixty delegates marched to the church in a body and occupied the front pews. The three days of the Convention were marked by perfect weather, excellent spirit and the most cordial hospitality of the Springfield Church, whose men entertained the delegate body at luncheon on Saturday and saw that everything was done for their comfort and convenience.

Anniversaries

In the course of the year 1919 there are many anniversaries of special interest to Unitarians. Churches whose fiftieth, one hundredth or other anniversaries happen to fall within the year ought to be making plans and programs for adequate celebration. Two anniversaries are of peculiar significance. On February 22nd there falls the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of James Russell Lowell. Mr. Lowell was the son of a Unitarian minister and was himself a lifelong Unitarian. His poems and essays interpret the Unitarian principles of religion and set forth the ideals of patriotism and public spirit which have always been nurtured in our churches. On May 19th there falls the one hundredth anniversary of Channing's Baltimore Sermon, which we have been in the habit of taking as the beginning of a definite Unitarian movement in America. Special programs for use in our churches at that time will be prepared and sent out in due course of time. A more particular celebration of the event will be had in connection with the meeting of the General Conference at Baltimore next September. The people of our churches should, moreover, not forget that next year, 1920, we shall celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. A special Commission to devise and promote adequate recognition of that great event has been appointed and is at work upon plans.

Department of Religious Education

The Finance Committee of Unity Church, Montclair, N. J., has recently issued a circular letter to the members of the congregation that is not only creditable to themselves but suggestive to others. "A little over a year ago," they say, "the great problem of Unity Church was, what should be the future of its Sunday school?" They were wholly dissatisfied

with anything less than the best. So they "determined to adopt the latest and best methods," and engaged a specialist in religious education who had been trained at the Tuckerman School. The best teachers were also sought, and salaries paid where necessary. The school "was thoroughly reorganized and put in line with the best church schools of the country. It is now a success," they add. Of course this cost "a good deal of money, — at least $1,000 in excess of what the school cost under the old plan." They announce their purpose to go forward upon the road they have thus entered, and for this excellent reason: "The calamitous events of the last four years, which have cost the world so many of its finest young lives, seem to impose upon us the duty of trying to replace them from among the children round about us." This is a frank recognition of the real purpose of our schools and our churches, — the making of noble men and women. Would that all perceived that truth. It would greatly strengthen all our work, and revolutionize more schools, as it has done in Montclair.

The Circulating Library, at 25 Beacon Street, Boston, has now an exceptionally large and valuable collection of books for the help of Sunday-school teachers, parents, and others interested in the right development of children and young people. A "List" of these books, filling an eight-page pamphlet, has been sent to every Alliance president and every Sunday-school superintendent in the denomination. Others who can make use of such books or who want to know what to get to be read to or about children, will do well to secure copies of this list, which may be had for the asking. The topics under which these books are listed is suggestive, and indicate its richness. These are, The Sunday School, (seven books), Religious Education (nine books), On the Understanding of Child Life (thirty books), Teacher-training and Teaching Methods (nineteen books), Lessons for Home and School (sixteen books), Ethics (fifteen books), About Boys (seven books), About Girls (five books), Stories and Story-Telling (thirty-seven books), Special Holidays (eleven books), Play and Recreation (six books), the total being 167. As these books are loaned without cost, the only charge being for return postage or express, they ought to be kept in constant use. Many a perplexed parent or teacher will find among these books just the help needed. If schools, churches, Alliances, and public library officials will use this "list" as a suggestion for local teachers' and parents' libraries, much good should follow.

The officers of this Department have often urged the importance of allying our church schools with public schools, libraries and other civic enterprises of education and philanthropy. Our church at Sioux City, Iowa, has taken an important step, in the matter of making the city library a co-operating agency, that may well be imitated by others. They have issued a very attractive pamphlet of twenty-four pages entitled "Books by Unitarian Authors in the Sioux City Public Library." Fifty authors are named, with book-titles, ranging from one to twenty-five for each. The subjects treated in these books cover a wide range of literature, — history, poetry, fiction, ethics and religion. The list of authors is imposing, and the pamphlet makes an effective missionary document. It might be well for other churches, contemplating a like enterprise, first to provide their local library with the writings of Unitarian authors. Our fellowship is peculiarly rich in these, a telling fact in commending our faith. An additional suggestion is, that the local libraries may be induced to purchase books on religious education, such as those mentioned in the new "list" which is being sent to Alliances and Superintendents. Such books, read by teachers and by parents, will be most helpful in strengthening the work of the church school and in promoting a right religious atmosphere in the home.

An interesting testimony as to the favor with which the Beacon Course in Religious Education is being regarded in our church schools is found in a report recently made by the Publication De-

partment to the Directors of the Association. From this report it appears that 7,818 manuals and pupils' hand work packages have been sold to our schools so far this school-year, of which 6,031 have been of the new Course. The considerable number remaining, 1,787, indicates, equally, the value of the manuals formerly issued, many of which are constantly commended to our schools, particularly to fill gaps that yet remain in the Beacon Course.

The leaflets to be used with Miss Cobb's new book, "God's Wonder World," are announced to be ready on February 25. This will complete this important course of lessons, intended for pupils nine years of age. The manual, even without this valuable adjunct for the children to use, has already won the admiration of those who have examined it. To start the children right in their relation to the world in which they live will aid them throughout their lives to live with God in a very real sense.

The sixteenth annual meeting of the Religious Education Association will be held in Detroit on March 17th, 18th and 19th. The program this year centres about the theme, "A Religious Interpretation of Democracy." Many Unitarians and a few Unitarian church schools are members of this Association. We have in this column frequently urged that such memberships become more numerous, even general, and have each year urged our people, so far as possible, to attend these meetings. The approaching session will be of peculiar interest to us from the fact that Dr. Samuel A. Eliot is now President of the R. E. A. Many of our fellowships have held and several are now holding offices in this body, and others are loyal supporters. There is no other body in existence that can lead all the denominations, as the R. E. A. can, into higher ideals of religious education. Much that Unitarians have stood for and our Department is trying to establish, this body promotes actively in all the Protestant churches. The meetings are highly educative, the fellowship enjoyed at the annual gatherings is most delightful, and the cause represented is in the highest degree worthy of support.

Department of Community Service

During the last four years the attention of the churches has been fixed almost entirely upon problems and work connected with the war. Even before the United States entered the conflict a large proportion of our people were giving their time to relief work conducted by the Red Cross, the American Fund for the French Wounded, and the various organizations devoted to the care of civilians or soldiers in the belligerent countries. Philanthropies and reforms which were of importance in ordinary peace times retreated to the background. Very little new work was undertaken, and if the old received sufficient support to meet the requirements of a reduced budget it was fortunate. After the entrance of this country into the war effort was almost exclusively centered upon war work, and this of course was precisely as it ought to have been.

But now that the war is over, the necessity is pressing that the churches should turn their thoughts once more to the problems of peace. It is perhaps too early to formulate a program for community betterment which shall enlist the efforts of all the churches, but there is one thing at least which demands immediate attention. The demobilizing of our soldiers is proceeding at a rather rapid rate, faster indeed than the men can be absorbed in industry. This is creating a very difficult situation. Too many men in uniform are walking the streets of our cities and towns unable to find work, and this is a serious reflection upon our patriotism and humanity. It is intolerable that men who have enlisted or who have been drafted into our army, who have fought on the battle fields of France or who have stood ready to risk their lives, should be discharged and no thought be given as to what becomes of them. Small wonder is it if the unjust hardships of peace should embitter the hearts of some of them and provoke harsh criticism of the country which

seems to be so indifferent of their welfare.

Early last month there was transmitted to the ministers of the churches an appeal of the United States Employment Service of the Labor Department, asking the co-operation of the churches in its plans to find employment for soldiers and sailors who have been discharged from the service. From the wording of the statement which accompanied the appeal it seemed as though the Government proposed to establish employment bureaus throughout the country, both in small towns and large cities. It is to be feared, however, that this scheme is not being pushed very energetically. In fact, it appears that if the men are to find jobs it will be largely through their own efforts, assisted by such co-operation as the communities themselves can give. All the more reason, therefore, that the churches should do their very utmost to help meet the situation. In the early days of the Christian church this was exactly the kind of work that local congregations undertook to do. If a member of the church lost his job his fellow members saw to it that he got another. If a man came home from the wars he was not compelled to shift for himself alone, but the church rendered all the assistance in its power. It is time to revive this ancient, humane, and most Christian practice. Let congregations be canvassed to discover what opportunities there are for the employment of our returning soldiers and sailors. Impress upon employers of labor that now is the time for them to show their practical patriotism. If any churches are thinking of making improvements or repairs to their buildings, now is the time to do it. Make the men who are coming home feel that those who remained behind are grateful for their sacrifices and eager to help them back to their places in industry. It is an opportunity for service such as may not again come to the churches in a long time, and it will be both foolish and wrong not to make the most of it. If there are local employment bureaus with which the churches can co-operate, by all means the closest relation should be established with them. Where there are no bureaus the churches should undertake this work on their own initiative. It is to be hoped that those of the Unitarian name will not be slackers in this all important service.

Publication Department

One of our recent books "*The Soul of America in Time of War*" has been in some places reported as out of print. This report is erroneous. At no time has this book been out of print, although for a short time we were unable to fill orders promptly because of the heavy demand and the congestion at the bindery. We now have an adequate supply, and we shall be able to fill orders as received. This book has had a splendid reception by the press and the public, and is heartily commended to the readers of WORD AND WORK.

Laymen's Convention

This department was represented at the Convention by the Publication Agent, who, through the courtesy of the Rev. Augustus P. Reccord of the Church of the Unity, had three tables covered with books and tracts which were felt would be of interest to the delegates. Pamphlets in the Church Efficiency Series, particularly the five recent ones, the two new bulletins in the Religion for the New Age Series, the revised edition of the Unitarian Handbook, and a few of the most popular tracts in the A. U. A. series were displayed, together with our recent book publications. A considerable number of the delegates expressed their pleasure at having these tracts brought to their attention, and took entire sets for examination with the intent to use the suggestions contained therein for the benefit of their respective churches.

The Social Emphasis in Religious Education

Our recent publication, by Rev. William I. Lawrance, Secretary of the Department of Religious Education, is a valued contribution to this important

field. It interprets and shows how to utilize that religious force that comes from the new social vision.

Sketches of Some Historic Churches of Greater Boston

The sale of this collection of addresses compiled by twelve Alliance members has exceeded our expectations, although the book has been published only six weeks. The book contains much historical matter about twelve of our churches and presents in an interesting way the early history of Unitarianism in New England, as illustrated by these several churches.

God's Wonder World

The teachers' manual for grade nine of the New Beacon Course has been published, and has received much deserved praise from the public and from the Sunday schools which have already ordered it. The leaflets for this grade are rapidly approaching completion and are expected about February 25.

Our Debt to Great Britain

We have recently issued in pamphlet form *"Our Debt to Great Britain,"* an address delivered by the Rev. Paul Revere Frothingham at Arlington Street Church on Britain's Day. Perhaps our opinion that it is worthy of the author and the occasion is sufficient comment. Single copies sell for ten cents, or twelve cents by mail. We are, however, making a special price of $8.00 per hundred, including postage charges, to individuals or churches who desire a quantity of these pamphlets. We know of no more fitting gift to your British friends or your anti-British acquaintances.

Religion for the New Age Series

In accordance with the vote of the Board of Directors of December 10, we have published two new tracts in the Religion for the New Age Series. These are *The Things That Remain*, by Augustus P. Reccord, and *The Challenge of the New Age to the Churches*, by Edmund H. Reeman.

The manuscript for *The Brotherhood of the Free*, by Rev. George Kent, has just been received and will be ready for distribution about February 24. *Essential Christianity*, by Rev. Abraham M. Rihbany, has been transferred from the Soldiers and Sailors Series to the Religion for the New Age Series, and will be issued as No. 4 in that series.

Handbook for Unitarian Churches

The revised edition of the *Handbook for Unitarian Churches* has been published and is now ready for distribution in limited quantities to churches.

New Hymn and Tune Book

Since the last notice in WORD AND WORK, All Souls' Church of White Plains, New York, Unity Church of Brockton, Mass., and the First Unitarian Society, Davenport, Iowa, have installed the *New Hymn and Tune Book*.

RELIGION FOR THE NEW AGE SERIES

No. 1. **THE THINGS THAT REMAIN.**
By Augustus P. Reccord
A convincing address that liberty, equality, justice and humanity will be the fundamental principles of the conduct of life.

No. 2. **THE CHALLENGE OF THE NEW AGE TO THE CHURCHES.**
By Edmund H. Reeman
A summary of the problems confronting the churches, with the expression of firm belief in the power and advantage of the Unitarian church.

CHURCH EFFICIENCY SERIES

No. 2. **HANDBOOK FOR UNITARIAN CHURCHES.**
A revised edition of the Handbook has just been issued. This contains suggestions and recommendations for the organization and administration of liberal churches, with practical advice about forming a church, calling a minister, finances, organizations, etc.

The Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

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25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, *Rec. Sec.*
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
226 Windermere Ave., Wayne, Pa.

This comes from Oregon in greeting to our Alliance President:

Christmas, 1918. In the olden time it was told us that nigh two thousand years ago the angels sang—

"Peace on earth,
Goodwill to men."

We believed it then, and even now we believe that under those far off Syrian skies the angels had good cause so to sing. But never, never since the sons of men first sang together has there dawned a Christmas-tide so heavy with mourning, or so full of cause for gladness and hopefulness. Just for this Christmas morning we would once again be little children, and forgetting all our questionings, join together in a psalm of thankfulness. In such solemn service, though sorrow and joy would intermingle, we would fain be of your company. But fate forbids, and hence, instead of the warm hand clasp, this written word of loving remembrance.

The Post Office Mission

At the January Conference of Post Office Mission workers, Miss Louisa Blake, for several years secretary of the central committee, made the following appeal for the keeping of records:

You doubtless all know the child's conundrum, "Why is news spelled *news*?" and the answer of course "Because it comes from north, east, west and south." I was impelled at one of our conferences to repeat this conundrum, for it amused me, but when I saw the annual reports of the two hundred and twenty-four or more Post Office Missions of the United States and Canada I could see nothing amusing in the Post Office Mission news from north, east, west and south.

I feel myself a good deal in the position of the minister who preaches on The Duty of Going to Church, for the very people he wishes especially to reach are motoring or playing golf or reading the Sunday papers, and his sermon is preached to the good people who see their duty of going to church. So with you, doubtless most of you send in excellent reports, but even so we all can improve, every one of us, and make our Post Office Mission a more perfect organization.

You report to the central committee in April and that committee reports to The Alliance. Just for one moment think how absolutely incorrect the statistics are. Take for example last year's record in the Manual, pages forty-eight and forty-nine. You read Mrs. Dakin's excellent report, then read the summary of our work that follows. In a few words it is a column of errors, an absolutely inadequate report. In the geographical distribution of reports received you see only one hundred and six reports for the New England states, one hundred and forty-one should have been received; for the middle states twenty-three reported out of a possible thirty-four; for Canada three out of four (no criticism of Canada in war time); for southern states one report and eight should have been received; central west four instead of seven; western states fifteen Post Office Missions and all fifteen reported; for Rocky Mountains two out of a possible three reported and for the Pacific Coast nine out of twelve; in other words, one hundred and sixty-three Post Office Missions reported and sixty-one failed to report.

I shall not speak of the many Alliances that have no Post Office Mission committee and ought to have, but simply of the importance to the existing Missions,

224 of them, of keeping records and reporting.

The central committee to my mind has planned the simplest of methods, twenty-two questions they ask, yes, a sort of game of not twenty questions but twenty-two, interesting, simple questions and good fun when entered into with a will. Why can they not be answered, that our central committee may be able to some extent to tell The Alliance the scope of our work?

Picture the National Post Office Mission chairman, or secretary, after waiting the year through for news from the various branches, opening eagerly report after report to study the answers to the twenty-two questions and finding:

Have you advertised during the past year? I think so.

In what paper or magazine and how long? I don't remember.

Have you advertised a special sermon? If so, what was the title? I have forgotten the title.

How many applications have you received? I don't know.

How many correspondents have you? Not sure.

How many letters or post cards have you received? Probably eight, perhaps more.

How many have you written? About fifteen.

How many tracts and sermons have you sent out. Have not kept count.

Does your Public Library have the *Christian Register*? I think so, not sure.

How many tracts have been taken from your rack at the church door? Impossible to keep count.

Our chairman has gone south and we know nothing of her records.

Our chairman has been ill and we dare not speak to her about the work of the year.

(It is to be understood that these replies do not all occur on the same blank).

What a report, absolutely unsatisfactory and yet The Alliance awaits the report of our central committee. What is to be done?

Our Worcester Post Office Mission adopted the admirable idea of the Arlington Street committee, a card catalogue for correspondents, keeping the name and address of the correspondents, the names of those who correspond with them, how the name was obtained and what literature was sent. Of this we have now one card that is kept by the Mission. This card tallies with the member's book so that we have in the records all the literature sent each correspondent. This may be more simply arranged on correspondence cards, having a card catalogue of such cards.

Again it is interesting, as our advertisements vary, to keep a book of clippings, showing the different magazines and papers, and the price of our advertisements, but above all we must keep careful records in order to answer the twenty-two questions, whatever else we do. These records help to bind us together as links of an endless chain, and just today we must be especially strong, strong in our organization, for a door into new opportunities is just opening. What one of us can look down the years and see what wonderful opportunities await just us, as distributors of our great, broad, sun-lighted Unitarianism? The door is just opening, we cannot look in, but we can be strong, we can be ready for this new glimpse today that is ours, ours alone as Unitarians.

LOUISA BLAKE.

In discussion it was suggested that the twenty-two questions be sent out in the autumn, that each Post Office Mission chairman may keep them at hand, a constant and relentless reminder.

Executive Board

The monthly meeting of the Executive Board was held January 10th in the parish house of the Church of the Saviour, Brooklyn, N. Y., Miss Lowell presiding. There were also present: Mmes. Voigt, Peterson, Davis, Noyes, Atherton, Bacon, Bailey, Coolidge, Kimball, Whitman, Griffin, Donnell, St. John, Glasgow, and by invitation Miss Low, Mrs. Catlin, Mrs. Bishoprick, Mrs. Southworth, officers of the Samaritan Alliance, Brooklyn, and presidents of the New York branches and the League.

Mrs. Davis announced the formation of the Evening Committee of the Montreal Alliance, made up of young women who cannot attend afternoon meetings. The honorary chairman is Mrs. H. W.

Weller, in whose Sunday School class the girls were first gathered together. Miss Annie Spense is chairman, Miss Ethel Hyde Clarke, secretary.

Miss Lowell welcomed Mrs. St. John to her first meeting as director for Eastern Pennsylvania, although no stranger to the Board. By rising vote a message of sympathy was sent to Mrs. St. John's mother, Mrs. Everett, in hospital from the effects of a bad fall.

On the recommendation of the Post Office Mission committee Mrs. George Kent, of New Orleans, was elected a member of the central Post Office Mission committee to succeed Miss Soulé.

The International committee reported that for the work of the Correspondence Bureau $15 has been forwarded to Miss Herford, in England, and $15 to Miss Van Eck, in Holland. Contributions to the Crèche at Antibes, France, were reported to the amount of $124. It was voted to ratify the action of the Treasurer in sending $10 to the International Union of Liberal Christian Women, the larger fee adopted during war time.

The Chairman of the International committee cannot recommend too strongly the enthusiastic "carrying on" of our missionary work, both at home and abroad. Attention was particularly called to our Mission in Italy and to the need that branches contribute towards that Appeal.

The following names have been placed *in memoriam:* Mrs. Elizabeth Bridgham Dexter and Miss Elodie Bush, by Providence, R. I., First branch; Mrs. George A. Lawrence and Mrs. Edward M. Skillings, by Fitchburg, Mass., branch; Mrs. John O. Richardson, Mrs. Catherine G. Parker, and Miss Mary E. Whitford, by Billerica, Mass.; Mrs. Minerva Abbott Noyes, Buffalo, N. Y., by her daughter; Mrs. George W. Morton, Quincy, Mass., by Mrs. Thomas Bixby; Mrs. Thomas Fenno, Quincy, Mass., by her husband; Mrs. Eva F. Putney, by Waverley, Mass.

The President announced the following appointments: May Meetings committee, Mrs. Bailey, chairman, Mmes. Boyd, J. K. Whiting, Griffin, Anderson, Clarke.

Manual committee (to co-operate with Mrs. Davis), Mrs. Noyes, chairman, Mmes. Allen, Henry, Holdrege.

It was voted to hold the platform meeting of The Alliance in Anniversary Week in Tremont Temple.

Mrs. E. A. Coil, of Marietta, was elected second director for Ohio.

Mrs. E. H. Carpenter, of Castine, Maine, and Brookline, Mass., was elected director for Central Maine.

Miss Grace M. Burt and Mrs. Atherton were appointed a committee to prepare a new issue of a Code for Alliance Women.

Mrs. Voigt brought to the Board the affectionate greetings of Mrs. Katherine Weller, now in her fourth year of service in France.

Miss Monroe, president of the Samaritan Alliance, voiced the welcome of her branch.

The meeting adjourned at 1.05 P.M. when all partook of a delicious luncheon served by the hostesses.

At two o'clock in the beautiful auditorium of the Church of the Saviour an informal conference was held, Miss Lowell conducting the Alliance opening service. Mr. Lathrop offered prayer. Rev. Maxwell Savage entered an earnest plea that Alliance women show their loyalty to the faith by bringing more young men of our own household to choose the ministry, and urged that every effort be made to enlarge the minister's opportunity and freedom to heed the promise of the new day. Dr. Southworth gave evidence that the committee that Mr. Savage represents is achieving results, in that four students have recently been headed for Meadville.

Mrs. Glogau, president of the New York League, who has recently visited the Carolina Industrial School, gave a most interesting account of the schools at Swansboro and Shelter Neck, N. C., and showed the great opportunity that is ours of enlarging this work.

Miss Packard explained the efforts of the Young People's Religious Union to get the young people of our churches

organized through their spirit of service, their desire to do for others.

Mrs. Kimball told of the work of student secretaries among college students at various points.

Mrs. Voigt spoke an earnest word for our Italian Mission, and Mrs. Davis exhorted us to devote all our enthusiasm and consecration to carrying forward our own work and make more widely known the message of Jesus as we understand it.

A vote of thanks was offered to the ladies of the Samaritan Alliance and to the Church of the Saviour for their cordial welcome and hospitality.

By rising vote the assembly put on record its sense of grief at the loss of a distinguished citizen and ex-president, Theodore Roosevelt.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON,
Recording Secretary.

International Committee

Your Committee begs to report that since the printing of the Manual the Chairman has received the following contributions for the Crèche at Cap d'Antibes:

Members of the Lenox Ave. Branch, New York	$61.50
Tuesday Club of Unitarian Church at Cincinnati	13.00
Miss Lucy Lowell	10.00
Alliance Branch, Milford, N. H.	10.00
In Memory of Ernest M. Barry from Mr. W. Barry, Kennebunk	9.00
John Howard Lend-a-Hand Club	5.00
Unity Home Branch, New Bedford	5.00
Eliot Alliance, Messiah, St. Louis	4.50
Lend-a-Hand, West Roxbury	3.00
Frances S. Merrill, Lend-a-Hand Club	2.00
Boston Lend-a-Hand Society	1.00
	$124.00

JESSIE VOIGT,
Chairman.

Junior Alliance Notes

Palo Alto, Cal. The first Junior Alliance in California, and at present the only one on the Pacific coast, was formed last year in Palo Alto for the purpose of doing Red Cross work. The members worked faithfully at the Red Cross rooms, besides holding several meetings in the homes of the girls. Now that the need for this kind of work is so much less, the secretary thinks they may not continue as an active body, but we hope they will find some other interesting and worthwhile work to hold them together.

Jamaica Plain, Mass. We have fourteen new members this year, the largest number we have ever had at one time.

For the first time since our organization eight years ago, two members reached the age limit, and in November graduated into the Senior Branch. The Alliance pin was presented to them by the Branch, and a copy of the Code, and one of the senior members wrote a hymn to be sung on that occasion. At Christmas we sent a dozen Victor records to Mrs. Peterson for Dix House, North Carolina. Our "Vacation Meeting" came the day after Christmas and thirty-one sat down to the luncheon, provided by the older members, after which the new members gave a little play for our entertainment. At our meetings we are now making baby clothes for the new "Garderie" in France.

Vice-Presidents' Reports

I. THE MIDDLE STATES

Madam President and Members of the Board: —

As the Middle States Directors will report for their various branches, your Vice-President need only make one or two general remarks and these will be to congratulate her branches on the excellent achievements of the past year.

The financial returns for fifty-eight branches were $33,117.91, making an average of $570.99 for each branch.

As New England raised $101,764.87 among two hundred and twenty-three branches, it averages about $456.34 for each. This is not given as an odious comparison, but with great pride, as it is not often we get ahead of our New England sisters.

Canada raised $3,229.51 among ten branches, an average of $322.95 for each, which is a remarkable showing, as her branches are smaller and her coffers under a continuous drain for war work.

Your Vice-President would call the attention of the Middle States directors to the less complimentary fact, however, that out of fifty-eight branches only fourteen answered the Appeals; in other words, forty-four failed to support the causes recommended by the Board. May we not do better by the end of the year?

Miss Whitman, Chairman of the Committee on Appeals, begs us to give a little something to the various calls in our own body. Contributions run from twenty-five cents to fifty dollars for each Appeal and it would be a splendid thing to have every branch in the Appeal-list in the Manual.

In closing, special congratulations are extended to the Church of the Saviour, Brooklyn, to the Flatbush branch and to the branch of the Church of the Messiah, New York, for being the only three branches in the Middle States who have something indicated under each of the ten headings in the Manual. Shall we not hope that next year we may congratulate every branch for the same cause?

Respectfully submitted,
JESSIE VOIGT,
Vice-President.

II. CANADA.

Although it is easy to understand that placing the Victoria and Vancouver Branches in the Pacific district will facilitate the work as well as will give profit to them — yet — being bereft of these two interesting branches it makes our Canadian reports appear more than usually meagre. Further, a perusal of the Western Canadian reports will impress you that there is a kind of dispirited effort being put forth in the accomplishment of duty. I comment upon this at the beginning of what I have to say, for I do not wish, even for the space of the few minutes required in reading this that you will misjudge it for apathy and loss of interest in Alliance work. I know these women through their letters only, but I know the general conditions as they exist in Canada today. They are utterly war-weary. In almost all cases they are sadddened by the blows that have befallen them. The strain of four and one quarter years has been so telling upon their vitality, that, now it is lifted, they do what they do, perfunctorily. Their splendid boy-power — which has steadily poured over-seas these four years — is returning, a remnant of it — broken manhood. Hosts of mothers are looking on, seeing such returning to other mothers — while no one comes back to them. They bore it bravely while the struggle raged, but now they must take time to think of themselves.

One of our women said to me recently, "I can't think or understand what is the matter with me — I have been so well during the war — nothing can tire me — now comes the armistice and my two are on their way home — now I collapse and must be taken care of like a little child!" Poor brave little mother! She had been tireless. She did not have to do it any longer so she could not go another step of the way alone!

So it will be with organized work. There will be a pause to take breath and to get a grasp upon the situation. No one doubts there is a big, overwhelming work for every one in the world today — and Canadians will not allow themselves too much time to recover. Already small groups for reconstruction work are formed and our women are bearing an honorable part and I ask you to believe that zeal for Alliance work will be of the best kind when you next receive our reports.

The Edmonton Branch speaks of being so busy with real work that they have very little time for meetings. That tells us enough to help us visualize their efforts — for Red Cross preparing refreshments and programs for returning soldiers and those in convalescent homes, social evenings for the congregations and Christmas trees for their children of the Sunday School. Again during the epidemic of influenza every member of the Branch who was not afflicted was on duty in some kind of relief work, especially making and delivering broths to the centers or to the homes of the sufferers.

They speak with appreciation of Mrs. Bale's visit to them — likewise their gratitude for the sum of $25 they were able to contribute — to St. Dunstan's Hostel and $20 to Red Cross — through Mrs. Bale's "Lend-a-Hand" Christmas Cards.

Calgary's membership is extremely small. They seem to have undertaken little in the way of program this year. Or — to use their own words — "We have done what appeared to be most pressing!"

Although they could send only $10 to the American Unitarian Association War Relief Fund, they were very happy to respond for they felt deepest appreciation for the ready helpfulness of the Association at all times.

They report the visit of Mrs. Bale as a "reassuring one." It found them, the secretary says, in a depressed state, and they caught new life and more ambition to increase their membership and labors.

They speak with deep feeling of the passing of their founder and friend Mrs. Pratt.

Winnipeg reports a season broken by the ravages of Spanish influenza. Meetings of all kinds were discontinued until the middle of December — now that the war is over and the ban lifted they hope to take up regular Alliance work.

Mrs. Wright, President of the Ottawa Branch, has a report of their Red Cross and Refugee work which has been out of proportion with their numbers; also the great work they did during the epidemic, providing almost as much broth as the three hospitals did.

Mrs. Latham reports, for the Montreal Branch, that the long discipline of hard work will soon help us to turn the same effort of our organization to other matters. At Red Cross headquarters we are told that our co-operation will be required for, at least, two years. We have never failed to meet every week for over four years.

More and more I come to feel a cheerful optimism about the spread of Unitarian gospel. Unitarianism will be universal. I am sure that as the world discards the non-essentials of religion they will preserve the faith we love. Comfort and healing will come of it to this sick world — when they understand how easy love to God and love to man would make the way.

Respectfully submitted,
CORINNE M. LOUSON.
Vice-President.

The next meeting of the New England Associate Alliance will be held in the Second Church, Brookline, Sewall Avenue and Charles Street. Among the speakers will be Mrs. Mary I. Wood of Portsmouth, N. H., Mrs. Emile Glogau, President of the New York League of Unitarian Women and Dr. Samuel A. Eliot. Mrs. Taglialatela will sing.

The Chaplains' Fund

Acknowledgment is made of contributions to Chaplains' Fund as follows:

Previously acknowledged	$1515.50
Hingham Branch	10.00
Roxbury, First Church Branch	2.00
New Bedford Branch	25.00
Beverly Branch	1.00
Dorchester, Norfolk Branch	5.00
Concord, Mass., Branch	2.00
Marietta, Ohio, Branch	1.00
Weston Branch	25.00
Miss Alice B. Felt	5.00
North Easton Branch	5.00
Miss Sarah B. Williams	5.00
Eastport, Me., Branch	2.00

The Appeals Committee is grateful to the branches for their prompt and generous response to the needs of the Chaplains' Fund. No more money is now required for this Appeal.

Appeals

Appeals stand as follows:

Green Harbor	$200
Meadville Students	104
Pacific School Students	117
Tuckerman School	90
Southern Circuit in addition to pledges	826
White Plains	135
Italian Mission	397
Memphis, Tenn.	196
Christian Register (to increase circulation)	443
Foreign War Relief (unlimited)	

Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters: Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Mr. Carl B. Wetherell, *President*

Miss Minnie Packard, *Secretary* Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, *Treasurer*

The Two Foot Rule Campaign

Believing that the times call, not only for a renewed loyalty to the church, but also for an awakened spiritual consciousness from Unitarian young people, the directors of the Young People's Religious Union have inaugurated the "Two-Foot Rule Campaign" for the year 1919. As in material construction the two-foot rule plays an important part with the builder, so in this campaign the churches and young people's societies will be asked by means of this rule to "measure up" their young people's work in its relation to the local church.

The "rule" in question establishes certain standards for the church, the junior societies and the young people themselves to measure up to, not with the idea of arbitrarily setting standards of religious and spiritual excellence, but of providing a foundation upon which to build a greater efficiency in the church work of the young people and help develop a wider solution of the young people's problem as related to the church.

Contemporaneous with the appearance of this article the "Two-foot rule" will be in the hands of ministers and leaders of young people's work in the churches. With the belief that, not only have the young people a part to play, but that the church has a part in helping them to play it, the rule has been divided into two sections — one for the young people and one for the church. It is urged that both sections be measured up at once and the result used as the foundation for a campaign for greater efficiency and larger effort during the present year.

Inaddition to the above,an individual "two-foot rule" has been prepared. This carries the query: "How much of a Unitarian are you?" and aims to bring to the young person a definite self-analysis on religious matters. The co-operation of ministers and laymen alike is asked in placing one of these in the hands of every young person in the denomination.

In conjunction with the "Two-Foot Rule Campaign" it is planned to make February a month for special church attendance among Unitarian young people. The best evidence of church loyalty is church attendance and young Unitarians everywhere are urged to rally and set, in February, a standard for the denomination. Ministers are asked to give wide publicity and impress upon the young people their obligations to the church.

Each month of the year will be devoted to a different phase of the campaign and brief articles in Word and Work will keep in touch with the special work of the month. The following is an outline of the matters to be treated:

February, Church Attendance; March, Church Loyalty— How the young people can help the church and why they should; April, Church Support — The financial obligation of every young person; May, Denominational Loyalty — Our allied societies and the young people's part; June, Organization — The benefits of organized service in young people's work; October, The Church's Part — What the young person gets from church life and what he should get (a symposium); November, The Religious Life — What religion should mean to the young person of today — the building of Unitarian youth; December, The Two-Foot Rule Campaign — A summing-up.

Permanent Trustees Appointed

At a special meeting of the directors, held for the purpose, a permanent board of three trustees was created to hold in trust the Endowment Fund of the Young

People's Religious Union. The step was taken in view of the growing importance of this fund, which now amounts to nearly $20,000 and whose interest alone can be used by the organization. This move at once places the affairs of the society on a firm financial basis and predicates the wise management of the investments representing the fund.

Percy A. Atherton, Sanford Bates and Albert Boyden were the trustees appointed, each to hold office until death or resignation, or until removed by a two-thirds vote of the directors. Vacancies in the board may only be filled by vote of the directors, subject to the written approval of the President and Treasurer of the American Unitarian Association.

A feature of the meeting was the receipt of a check for $5,000 from one friend of the Union and $1,000 from another donor. These sums together with a recent bequest bring the Endowment Fund up to the above total.

Mass Meeting, February 6

The next in the series of big mass meetings of the Y. P. R. U., which bring to culmination the various local rallies being held this winter to enthuse the young people, will take place in Arlington Street Church on Sunday evening, February 16, when Rev. Augustus P. Reccord will speak on "The challenge to the young people of our liberal churches." The public is cordially invited to the meeting which begins at 7.45. The devotional service will be in charge of Rev. Paul Revere Frothingham and selections will be furnished by a large young people's chorus under the direction of J. Russell Abbott.

South Middlesex Meets

Addresses by Rev. Joseph P. MacCarthy in the afternoon and Rev. Samuel McChord Crothers in the evening featured the live winter meeting of the South Middlesex Federation held Sunday, January 12, at First Parish, Cambridge. Mr. MacCarthy's talk dealt with his recent experiences in England while Dr. Crothers paid a tribute to Theodore Roosevelt and his efforts with the young people of his day. Box lunches were eaten between the sessions and the afternoon roll call showed a large delegation of Melrose young people among those present.

Norwell Offers $50 Bond

Combining patriotism with its good works under the name of religion the Norwell Y. P. R. U. offers the Young People's Religious Union a fifty-dollar Liberty Bond as its contribution this year, the conditions being that nine other Unions do the same, thus making ten Unions to give fifty dollars each. The attention of other Unions is called to this fine move on the part of the Norwell young people, with the hope that nine other Unions may find the proposition attractive and the desired sum be secured. In addition to the above offer the Norwell society has already pledged another fifty-dollar bond this year to the Unitarian Service Pension Society.

Notes

At the time this issue goes to press Miss Packard, the field secretary, is in New York, arousing enthusiasm for the young people's movement in that metropolis. Rallies are also being held in nearby cities, the results of which must appear at a later date.

The annual Indoor Picnic of the Boston Federation will be held this year at the Wollaston church on Saturday afternoon and evening, February 1. Members of the various societies and their friends are urged to make up special auto parties for this engaging social affair.

The South Middlesex Federation holds its indoor social meeting on Saturday, March 15, at the Channing church, Newton. Full details will appear in next month's issue.

Unitarian Temperance Society

Rev. Christopher R. Eliot, *President,* 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tilton, *Vice-President,* Cambridge, Mass.

Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge, *Secretary,* 301 Brattle Building, Cambridge, Mass.

Mr. Edward J. Rowse, *Treasurer,* 27 Richwood Street, West Roxbury, Mass.

TEMPERANCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Surgeon General Rupert Blue is asking all ministers to observe February 23 as Public Health Sunday. Alcohol is in many respects our greatest obstacle to health.

Alcohol lowers vital resistance; that is, it weakens both red and white blood corpuscles, so that the red cells are not so well able to do their own work and the white cells are not so well able to attack and destroy disease germs. (How to live, page 240.)

Twenty-five per cent of all insanity and ten per cent of all preventable disease are due to the use of alcohol. (Estimated by Committee of 50 and others.)

Mr. Arthur Hunter estimates that the death rate is 80% higher among drinkers than among policy holders of the same class.

Every year fully 120,000 lives are destroyed by alcohol. (80% of the 270,000 deaths annually among drinkers.)

In 43 American Life Insurance companies it was found that for every 100 deaths of average policy holders there were 118 deaths among those who drank two glasses of beer or one of whiskey a day; 150 deaths among those who had been intemperate but were cured; and 186 deaths among those who drank more than two glasses of beer or one whiskey a day, but considered themselves temperate.

The Massachusetts Commission on Inebriacy reported that alcoholism is a disease and should be treated in asylums and hospitals and not in jails and houses of correction. If it is a disease why should we not treat it as we do other diseases, destroy the germ that causes it?

Ratification

Ratification by Nebraska, January 16, completed the first phase of Prohibition victory. This means that the strong weapon of the law is now in the hands of those who will use it in defense rather than the destruction of American manhood. The amendment as ratified provides that the Federal Government and the states shall have concurrent powers of enforcement. The National Congress will now have to frame a code for this purpose and the license states adopt special legislation.

The liquor interests are now trying to defeat the law as passed and will do all in their power to vitiate the proposed enforcement laws while in the making, and to annul them when enacted.

Increased pressure of public sentiment demanding adequate laws and rigid enforcement will be necessary to complete the great moral victory of the new era.

On the Firing Line

The new platform of the Laymen's League asserts that "All churches—of whatever name—ought now to unite in working out these principles (freedom, fellowship, character, and service) in national and international political, industrial, and social institutions." The platform recommends further that the Unitarian churches "Encourage, and if need be take an active part in every fight against disease, premature death, vice, ignorance, and lawlessness."

The Unitarian Temperance Society is on the firing line.

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